

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING, NO. 78, APRIL2, 1976 (SALT TWO
-960)

1. LAUNCH-WEIGHT DEFINITION. SOVIETS TABLED A REVISED
TEXT, WITH RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSIONS IDENTICAL
TO THAT TABLED BY US AT PREVIOUS DRAFTING GROUP MEETING.
ENGLISH READS, " THE LAUNCH-WEIGHT OF AN ICBM IS THE WEIGHT
OF THE FULLY-LOADED MISSILE ITSELF AT THE TIME OF LAUNCH."
US REMINDED SOVIETS THAT PROPOSED US FORMAT WAS AN AGREED
STATEMENT. SOVIETS RESPONDED THAT LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THROW-
WEIGHT DEFINITIONS SHOULD BE TREATED SIMILARLY, THAT FORMAT
QUESTION COULD BE ADDRESSED ONCE SIDES WERE AGREED TO SUB-
STANCE OF THROW-WEIGHT DEFINITION AS THEY NOW WERE ON LAUNCH-
WEIGHT, AND THAT SOVIETS DID NOT EXPECT AGREEMENT ON FORMAT TO
BE A PROBLEM.

2. MIRV DEFINITION (ARTICLE II.5). SIDES DISCUSSED ENGLISH
AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF LAST PART OF PARAGRAPH 5
DEFINITION: " TO SEPARATE AIM POINTS ALONG TRAJECTORIES WHICH
ARE UNRELATED TO EACH OTHER." SOVIETS EXPLAINED THAT

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IMPORTANT MEANING WAS THAT TRAJECTORIES WERE INDEPENDENT OF

EACH OTHER AND SAID " UNRELATED TO EACH OTHER" AND "NEZAVISIMYM DRUG OT DRUGA" WERE SYNONYMOUS IN MEANING. US RESPONDED THAT IF TRAJECTORIES WERE UNRELATED TO EACH OTHER THEY WERE INDEPENDENT.

3. SOVIETS EXPLAINED THAT MIRV DEFINITION SHOULD BE PREMISED ON THE BASIC OBLIGATION TO LIMIT LAUNCHERS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS TO 1320 CONTAINED IN ARTICLE V.1. SOVIETS MAINTAINED THAT US PLENARY PROPOSAL OF MARCH 10 FOR ARTICLE V.1 ("LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS AND SLBMS EQUIPPED WITH MIRV SYSTEMS") AND SOVIET PLENARY PROPOSAL OF MARCH 31 FOR SAME PARAGRAPH ("ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCHERS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS") SHOW PROXIMITY OF VIEWS THAT BOTH SIDES ARE DEALING WITH "LAUNCHERS OF". US INQUIRED WHETHER SOVIETS NOW PREPARED TO USE "LAUNCHERS OF" CONCEPT FOR MIRVS. SOVIETS EXPLAINED THAT LIKE US THEY ARE PREPARED TO USE "LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS" AND "LAUNCHERS OF SLBMS", WHICH WAS THE ORIGINAL SOVIET PROPOSAL, BUT THEN FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL IS TO LIMIT IN 1320 AGGREGATE " LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS AND LAUNCHERS OF SLBMS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS". US SAID SOVIETS SEEMED TO BE SAYING LAUNCHERS OF A MISSILE WITH A MISSILE.KLOSSON

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